

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
February 1999

I. Highlights

- (I1) The architect firm and RO Engineering finalized the 100 percent completion of the design/plans for the new administrative headquarters building. It was then advertised and should be released for bid the first week of March.
- (G1) A flock of 100+ sage grouse were sighted flying over the Hampton tract. An unusual observation on the 9th was that of three Canada Geese flying over Highway 125 near the Case entrance road. Red-winged blackbirds have appeared at the refuge headquarters feeder, a sure sign of spring.

II. Weather

The month was warmer than normal with an extreme high of 48 degrees Fahrenheit, an extreme low of -10 degrees Fahrenheit and a mean of 23.4 degrees Fahrenheit. Precipitation was slightly above normal with .55 inches total from 8.6 inches of snow.

III. Activities and Accomplishments

- (F9) Lanier traveled to Craig, CO to attend an Craig Dispatch Interagency Fire meeting.
- (E7) Bilbeisi spend several days assisting the Lion's Club, spreading soil from the newly constructed ponds in the Lion's Club Wetland Park.
- (PA) Lanier participated in an Intermountain Joint Venture Platte River Action Group meeting in Rawlins, WY.
- (J3) Lanier attended a S390 Fire Behavior course in Albuquerque, NM.
- (J1) Rizor participated in a Focus Group Workshop, as a representative for the North Park Focus Area.
- (I4) The Masey Ferguson backhoe was transferred to Saratoga National Fish Hatchery.

Many days were spent by staff compiling information for and writing the Annual Narrative, it was ready for final review at the end of the month.

- (I5) Follett ran the Y2K compliance scan disc on all office computers. Two of the refuge computers were not compliant and one computer was partially compliant. The office phone system is not compliant but plans are to update it when it is moved into the new office.

- (I2) The window replacement contract was awarded for the Soap Creek house (Quarters #154).
- (HT) Several trips were made to Hutton Lake NWR to read water and retrieve last years water sheet.

IV. Problems

- (I4) Early in the month the 1450 dozer broke down, arrangements were made to have it fixed in Laramie. While hauling the dozer down on the semi, the semi broke down near Woods Landing, WY. After many hours of trying to fix the semi a mechanic was called to make a on site service. The semi ended up having to be hauled to the shop and the fuel pump was replaced.
- (H17) Two juveniles were observed riding snow machines and harassing elk on the Refuge. Bilbeisi called the sheriff's office and the juveniles were caught on the north end of the refuge, by the deputy sheriff. Officers from the CDOW (since Lanier was out of town) came out the next day to look for tracks and determine if any elk harassment could be proven, but fresh snow and wind had eliminated most of the tracks. The juveniles were cited for not have their snowmobile safety course certificates and each was talked to with their parents about riding in a closed area. No other charges were pressed.

V. Public Relations

OMP - Lanier (1)

NPHPP - Lanier (1)

NP Sage Grouse - Rizor (1)

Submitted by /s/ Pam Rizor
Wildlife Biologist